

Case Study	COVID and trafficking in Jharkhand, India
<p><b>March - July 2020</b></p>	 <p>Jharkhand, India District of Godda</p>
<p><b>Background</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jharkhand is one of India's <b>poorest states</b>. In Godda, one of its most remote districts, most of the population live below the poverty line and survive as day labourers or subsistence farmers.</li> <li>▪ The area is a frequent <b>target of human traffickers</b>. Victims are trafficked to the city, where many are stripped of their rights and drawn into exploitative work.</li> <li>▪ <b>Arise's network</b> has been in Jharkhand since 2016, combatting human trafficking through awareness raising, education, skills training and income diversification.</li> <li>▪ During COVID and lockdown, Jharkhand was flooded with <b>returning migrants</b> who had lost their jobs in the cities.</li> <li>▪ In response to urgent need and growing vulnerability, Arise's network rolled out a <b>COVID response programme</b> (Phases I and II) between March and July 2020.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities and outcomes</b></p> <p>Phase I March to April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Awareness raising:</b> The sisters (one a trained nurse) worked alongside state healthcare workers to educate people on COVID transmission and symptoms and to distribute masks.</li> <li>▪ <b>Survey:</b> Arise animators* and sisters conducted a survey of the poor, widows, elderly and disabled people in the region, in preparation to support them with food and other essential supplies during lockdown.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*animators are community mobilisers and project staff</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Community kitchen:</b> Arise-supported credit unions and rights groups worked with the sisters and animators to establish community kitchens to cook for vulnerable people. 108 volunteers in 9 groups cooked rice, legumes and vegetable curry for 550 people daily.</li> <li>▪ <b>Provision of food:</b> 503 of the poorest villagers were given food kits to help them through the initial months of lockdown.</li> <li>▪ <b>Quarantine centres:</b> Working with local officials, the sisters established a quarantine system for the 10,000 migrants expected to return to the project area. Transport was organised for the migrants, buildings were repurposed to house them, rooms were demarcated, bedding was collected, and volunteers were organised to cook and clean at the centres.</li> </ul>																																				
Phase II May to July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Youth groups trained in agriculture:</b> 38 youth groups and 445 young migrants received agriculture training and are growing vegetables, maize, bamboo and rice.</li> <li>▪ <b>Credit unions, rights groups and community-based organisation activities:</b> To instil an understanding of COVID, how to prevent it and the changing environment:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. signs were erected and street plays, songs and classes were held in the villages; and</li> <li>2. masks, sanitiser and other personal protective equipment was distributed to 1188 people.</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ <b>Registration:</b> The animators registered 1860 people as returning migrants and assisted them to access government food and support schemes. Project numbers are detailed below.             <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Migrants registered for government schemes:</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1720 1410 2038"> <thead> <tr> <th>Local council</th> <th>Old age pension</th> <th>Widow pension</th> <th>Handicap pension</th> <th>Housing</th> <th>Ration card</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chandana</td> <td>42</td> <td>28</td> <td>21</td> <td>253</td> <td>1053</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Susni</td> <td>38</td> <td>74</td> <td>30</td> <td>206</td> <td>619</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kusumaha</td> <td>96</td> <td>195</td> <td>20</td> <td>312</td> <td>892</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Goradhi</td> <td>126</td> <td>28</td> <td>25</td> <td>237</td> <td>464</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>302</b></td> <td><b>325</b></td> <td><b>96</b></td> <td><b>1008</b></td> <td><b>3028</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </li> </ul>	Local council	Old age pension	Widow pension	Handicap pension	Housing	Ration card	Chandana	42	28	21	253	1053	Susni	38	74	30	206	619	Kusumaha	96	195	20	312	892	Goradhi	126	28	25	237	464	<b>Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>3028</b>
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- Animators assisted people to access the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Act (NAREGA) - an Indian social security scheme that provides at least 100 days per year of wage employment to rural households. Animators secured government funding to pay migrants ±200 rupees each per day to build fields, roads, wells and reservoirs for the villages. Project numbers are detailed below.

Building projects commissioned under NAREGA:

Local council	Well	Reservoir	Road	Land-leveling	Trench	Animal sheds
Chandana	2	3	2	2	0	0
Susni	3	4	2	6	2	5
Kusumaha	1	7	0	0	<b>70</b>	0
Goradhi	2	7	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>7</b>

